





# THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1890.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

No. 2679.

## MARRIAGE.

At Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, 22nd Oct., by Rev. H. C. Hedges, M.A., ARTHUR W. DOUTH-WATTE, M.D., to CONSTANCE H. GROVES, eldest daughter of E. K. Groves, Esq., of Bristol, England.

## DEATH.

At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 23rd of October, 1890, E. J. SMITH, of I.M. Customs Service, aged 51 years.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1890.

## MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday last. There were present: His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government (Mr. F. Fleming), Mr. S. Deane (Acting Colonial Secretary), Mr. E. J. Acland (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes (Acting Registrar-General), Messrs. C. P. Chater, J. J. Keswick, P. Ryrie, T. H. Whitehead, Ho Kai, (unofficial members), and Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Acting Clerk of Councils.

## MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

## FINANCIAL MINUTE.

A financial minute recommending the Council to vote a sum of \$400, as a gratuity to the widow of Mr. Arthur Vagstad, Assistant Marine Engineer of the Fire Brigade, in consideration of her husband's service, was referred to the Finance Committee.

## THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.

The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table the report of the last meeting of the Finance Committee. The recommendation that the Despatch of the Secretary of State on the proposed reduction of postage, with the papers on the subject, be referred to the Chamber of Commerce for their observations, was agreed to by His Excellency, and the Council passed the votes recommended.

## NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. T. H. Whitehead gave notice that at the next meeting he would move the following resolution:

That the Government lay upon this table a complete and detailed statement showing:

1.—The total amount of interest paid by this Colony on account of the loan for 1890.

2.—The total amount of interest paid, principal and rate to be mentioned, on the loan annually from the date of borrowing until now, or to 30th June last, or any more convenient date of this year.

3.—The total amount of commission paid to the Crown Agents or others in connection with the loan.

4.—The total amount of interest, principal, and all other incurred and paid in respect of the loan.

5.—The profit or loss in exchange on each of the amounts of the loan repaid annually.

6.—The rate per cent per annum the loan has cost annually—the rate in fact to interest, commission, and all other charges.

7.—The amount to be repaid in pounds sterling as well as in dollars, the rate of exchange at which each conversion has been made.

Mr. Whitehead also gave notice of the following motion for the next meeting:

That the Council postpone consideration of the Estimates for 1891 for Public Works, until the 11th inst., and that the Estimates for 1891 for Public Works, until the 11th inst., and that the Estimates for 1891 for Public Works, until the 11th inst.

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member a short time ago, it was stated that the Bill we are now considering does not refer to extraordinary expenditure, but simply to ordinary expenditure. The Estimates undoubtedly deal with extraordinary expenditure, but the Appropriation Bill only deals with ordinary expenditure.

Mr. Chater—I was not present when the hon. member put his question, but I read the notice he gave, and I would have liked to have expressed myself to the effect that we should certainly require more information to enable us to pass these votes.

His Excellency—The hon. member is quite right in saying he would not have had an opportunity of making a speech on a question. The question was put and answered and there the matter stood for the time being. But the hon. member (Mr. T. H. Whitehead) has also given notice that he will make a motion in connection with this matter and when he does so of course it will be quite open to any hon. member to make any statement he may desire, and I may say it is my wish, as it must be the wish of every one, that all matters connected with public works should be brought into most fully.

The question that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee was then put and carried. The Council then resolved itself into Finance Committee, His Excellency retiring, and the Colonial Secretary taking the chair.

The Chairman said—The first matter before us is the supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1889. As you are aware, all these sums have already been voted; it is therefore a mere matter of form that the Bill is brought before you. I beg to move that it be approved.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman—The next matter is the Appropriation Bill, 1891. The first item is the charges on account of the public debt, \$365,537. I beg to move that this item stand part of the Bill.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman—The next item is Pensions, \$51,840. I may mention that there has apparently been rather a large increase as compared with last year, but it has arisen in this way. On preparing the Estimates I found no provision was made under the head of pensions for the loss the Colony has sustained from the depreciation of silver, and therefore I have provided this year, as you will see in the Estimates, a certain amount to make up the difference in the rate of exchange.

The Acting Attorney-General—Is that the \$4,840 that is put down?

The Chairman—Yes.

The item was approved.

The Chairman—The next item is \$40,879 for the Governor and Legislature. With reference to this I have to state that the difference in regard to the salary of the Governor and certain allowances and so on is made by authority of a despatch from the Secretary of State. There is also addition in consequence of the Clerk of Councils, who used formerly to have a department to himself, having been transferred to the Governor's establishment.

The item was approved.

The Chairman—The next item is a sum of \$10,348 for the Colonial Secretary's establishment.

The Acting Attorney-General—With reference to this, I find the Chief Clerk gets \$3,240 and \$1,200 as Clerk of Councils.

The Chairman—Why?

The Acting Attorney-General—Because it is put down here, "Holds the office of Clerk of Councils."

The Chairman—He is appointed to hold it, but it does not follow as a necessity that he always will.

The Acting Attorney-General—That brings up the pay of the office to \$4,536, which is more than that of the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

The Chairman—But I do not follow the two offices are held by the same man.

The Acting Attorney-General—They are at present.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer—By whom?

The Chairman—By Mr. Seth.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer—But at the present moment the acting appointments are distinct.

The Chairman—Yes. In this department you will also notice a new officer, a reference clerk. He was formerly the chief clerk in the Audit Office and he has been transferred to the Colonial Secretary's Office. There is a question as to whether he should receive an increase at the rate of 50 per cent, or 20 per cent, which it is proposed to refer to the Secretary of State.

I may observe with reference to the Passed Cadets that according to the despatch which has been laid before the Council the Passed Cadets receive \$1,800 and the cadets \$1,500, but the Act also receives quarters. The result is that it is almost better to be a Cadet than a Passed Cadet. I think that is a small fact that has been overlooked, and it will be brought before the notice of the Secretary of State.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer—What does a reference clerk mean?

The Chairman—He is the man who keeps the records as to who has been on leave and all matters of that kind. He is a kind of dictionary.

Mr. Whitehead—The increase of salaries comes in the Estimates for 1891?

The Chairman—Yes; wherever there is the letter "a" against the salary it refers to a marginal note showing the authority for the increase.

Mr. Whitehead—Will the Council have the opportunity of going into the increase of salaries later on?

The Chairman—No; now is the time.

Mr. Ryrie—I have only two questions.

The Chairman—I am very sorry. They were given to you a week ago.

Mr. Ryrie—They were laid on the table, but we are not in the habit of carrying these things about ourselves, and they were only sent to me a day or two ago.

The Chairman—Notice was given a fortnight ago and at the last meeting they were laid on the table.

Mr. Whitehead—I think a Select Committee should be appointed to consider the increase. I believe certain grounds exist and I think it should be looked into by the unofficial as well as the official members.

Mr. Keswick—It had been my intention before the Council adjourned to ask a question in reference to this matter—whether the Government would lay on the table a list of the officers who have not received an increase, and if they are not satisfied the grounds on which they make complaint, judging from what is stated in the public Press and from what is publicly stated by individuals it is more than probable that a number of very deserving officers of this Government, and I am satisfied I only echo the feeling of the public at large when I say that any improper application of this increase of pay would be viewed with very great regret.

In looking down these Estimates which we are now considering so hastily, and in which you mentioned to us we should find the increased salaries by the letter "a" in the margin, I find under "a" you correctly.

The Chairman—The letter "a" is placed against

the increases with reference to the Secretary of State's despatch No. 170 of the 19th June, 1890. That, therefore, is the authority for the difference between the amount put down for 1891 and for 1890. Therefore it follows as a matter of course that where the letter does not appear no increase has been given.

Mr. Keswick—I am obliged for your explanation. Now, I believe it is notorious, in connection with the Harbour Masters' department especially, that there is very great dissatisfaction in connection with the new scale of pay, and also in other departments, and I am very anxious the Government should afford some explanation of these causes of complaint and whether the grounds on which an increase of pay is disallowed are good and sufficient.

The Chairman—Do you put it in the form of a motion?

Mr. Keswick—Yes. I beg to move that the Government will lay on the table a list of those officers who have not received an increase under the new scale of pay and at the same time state the reasons if those officers are not satisfied.

Mr. Ho Kai—Because I believe injustice has been done to certain members of certain departments, and I think that it is to be regretted since the public has agreed that the pay of the Civil Service should be increased. I am sure the public will not grudge, since it has gone so far, the slight increase to be given to those who are suffering from some sort of injustice. I think a thorough investigation should be made and that every one should get a fair share. The public will be better pleased, after approving a few thousands more to make every one satisfied.

The Chairman—To reply to the hon. members I have no authority to make any official statement, but I am quite prepared to adopt one of two courses, whichever is most convenient to them. The first is that I am perfectly prepared as we go on through the different departments to inform the hon. members in any case they desire whether or not the increase has been refused and if so the grounds of such refusal; or I am prepared to agree to the adjournment of the Committee in order that the Legislature may resume, and the matter can then be considered by the Council.

perfectly prepared at the present moment to give the hon. members any information about any office they may desire. I may state that, as the hon. members have observed, a great many applications have been made for increases of pay, but the writers of these applications appear not to have studied the terms of the Secretary of State's despatch. The Secretary of State's despatch, which is the basis of the whole of this matter, lays down the grounds on which any application is to be considered, and we have received numbers of applications that are expressly disallowed by that despatch. As I said before, I am acquainted with all these cases, and if we come to any particular office in this list as to which any hon. member is dissatisfied, I will be very happy to give him the information. Practically the information is given by the absence of the letter "a" against their names in the Estimates, the reasons being given in the Secretary of State's despatch. However, I am in the hands of the Committee.

If they prefer to have it referred to a Committee of the whole Council I am prepared to assent to that, or if they prefer to go on in Finance Committee I am prepared to give any explanation they desire. I must also add that whatever we do now is not final; there is nothing to prevent any member of the Civil Service, who considers his pay aggrieved, sending to the Secretary of State his view of the matter, and in one or two cases we have already had members of the service who if they are dissatisfied their memorials will be attached to the despatch covering the Estimates.

Mr. Chater—After the remarks of the senior unofficial member, who states he has not had time to go over the Estimates, I think the better course would be to adjourn their consideration to the next meeting.

Mr. Whitehead seconded.

The Chairman—I do not think it would be very interesting or desirable that all these applications and the grounds of refusal should be printed, white is what it would come to.

Mr. Whitehead—The grievances are not so many are they?

The Chairman—No, I think they are not very many.

Mr. Whitehead—Then it would not take so long to go into it?

The Chairman—No, I could do it in two minutes verbally.

Mr. Whitehead—Would it not be better to refer it to a special committee?

The Chairman—I think it would be more in the interests of the officers concerned that you should admit my verbal explanation and then refer the applications to the Secretary of State or to Mr. Keswick. Did I understand the hon. member (Mr. Whitehead) to second the proposal of the hon. member on my right (Mr. Chater)?

Mr. Whitehead—Yes.

Mr. Ho Kai—I rise to order. There is a motion properly proposed and seconded before the meeting.

The Chairman—Since then there has been an amendment proposed.

Mr. Keswick—What is the amendment?

The Chairman—That the house be adjourned.

Mr. Keswick—And the original proposition?

The Chairman—Your own.

Mr. Keswick—I did not understand the hon. member to move it as an amendment.

The Chairman—Yes, a motion for adjournment is an amendment.

Mr. Chater—Then perhaps it would be better to take a division on the motion of the hon. member on my left (Mr. Keswick) and then I will move the adjournment.

The Acting Attorney-General—I understand the Chairman is able to give verbally the information why the applications in certain cases have been refused. I think, perhaps it would be better to hear that explanation before we go further. After we have heard that, hon. members might not consider it necessary to require anything further. Would the hon. member who made the motion be content with that for the present?

Mr. Keswick—I would prefer that the motion as I made it should be put to the meeting.

The Chairman—I have to move an amendment to the motion and that is, that this Committee do now adjourn, and so that this Legislature do be re-formed, so that this question may be considered in Council and not in Committee.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

The amendment was lost, four voting for it and five against it. The Acting Registrar-General did not vote.

The original motion was then put and carried.

The Chairman—I now move that the Committee report to the Legislature.

Mr. Chater—I beg to move that the consideration of the Estimates be adjourned to the next meeting.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer—I second the motion that we now report what His

place. After that the Council will adjourn, which will mean that the consideration of the Estimates in Finance Committee will also be adjourned.

The motion was then put and carried.

A message was then sent to His Excellency, who returned, and the Council resumed.

The Acting Colonial Secretary—I have to report to Your Excellency that the Finance Committee having commenced to consider the Estimates in connection with the Appropriation Bill for 1891 the hon. member on my left (Mr. Keswick) moved the following resolution:—

"Will the Government lay on the table a list of those officers who have not received an increase under the new scale of pay and at the same time state the grounds of refusal in the case of those officers who are not satisfied." That having been seconded was put to the meeting and agreed to, and the hon. member (Mr. Chater) now suggests that the further discussion of the Estimates should be adjourned for a week.

His Excellency—I understand some decision has been come to in Finance Committee, but the Council is not supposed to know what has transpired until the report has been sent up. Therefore if the Council now resumes, if any hon. member wishes to make a motion that may affect proceedings in the Finance Committee I presume he is at liberty to do so, but I quite see that there is any report sent up by the Finance Committee, that is, any report on the matter that was sent to them, at present.

Mr. Ho Kai—I think the hon. Chairman has already reported to your Excellency that resolution that was passed.

His Excellency—Yes, if you move the adoption of the report, but the Chairman did not move the adoption of the report. I leave that to some one else.

Mr. Keswick—I beg to move the adoption of the report.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer—I think the report ought to be in writing.

The Acting Attorney-General—I understood it was taken as being in writing to save time.

His Excellency—It is rather a ridiculous sort of proceeding.

Mr. Ryrie—I think, your Excellency, the best thing you can do is to adjourn. (Laughter.)

His Excellency—But if we adjourn we are doing no work.

Mr. Ryrie—I don't like the Estimates being hurried. I have already objected to it.

His Excellency—Neither do I, but we have other work to do. This is a motion I consider of very considerable importance, and I think the best plan will be for the consideration of this motion to stand over until the next meeting. The reason why I make these observations is that in regard to those officers who have not received an increase of pay there might be reasons which it might be difficult to lay before the Council, and I think myself the subject is one the Government ought very carefully to consider. On the face of it it may seem simple enough, but when you come to consider the question, that reason perhaps of a more or less confidential nature should be laid before the Council is an admission that should not be made. I think it would be wise for the hon. member to make this movement time to consider whether all the correspondence, which must be more or less confidential in a case of this kind, should or should not be published.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the question be postponed to this day week.

The Acting Attorney-General seconded.

Carried.

THE COMPANIES MEMORANDA OF ASSOCIATION BILL.

This Bill was considered in Committee and reported without amendment, and the Council adjourned until Monday next at half-past two.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

FOOTBALL matches by lamp-light are the order of the day—or rather night—in Singapore, just now.

LIU MING-CHUAN, Governor of Formosa, has been degraded for what Chinese consider next door to high treason, his offence being that he did not manage the coal-mines properly.

THE Shanghai Chamber of Commerce have discussed the new transit pass regulations, and will, it is expected, take action thereon, though in what form has not yet been made known.











new comers to Hongkong and presented his report, a copy of which you receive, Mr. Becher is now managing the 'Penjom Pahang' and this Company's properties jointly—an arrangement by which they will have the continued benefit of his services with an advantageous division of his remuneration. I am strongly of opinion—and Mr. Becher's remarks have only strengthened that opinion—that he isn't the man for our money in the Straits Settlements (Applause). Consider that he is grossly mismanaged affairs in London; I consider that he is still more grossly mismanaged and misrepresents the state of affairs at the mines, and I think the time has arrived when he should be removed from the office.

Mr. Legge—I have no objection to the paragraph being omitted (laughter and applause). Mr. Jones seconded the amendment, which was then put. A considerable number voted for it, but some confusion arising as to what was before the meeting.

Mr. Gore-Booth proposed that a poll be taken. Mr. Jones seconded, and after about a quarter of an hour's delay, the Chairman announced that 170 votes had been given for, and 230 against it.

Mr. Fraser-Smith asked how many directors' votes were included in the latter number? The Chairman—I don't know that you can ask it.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Oh! Yes, it's an open poll. The Chairman informed him that 57 votes had been given by directors.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Ah! That would just make the difference.

The Chairman then submitted the motion, which was unanimously agreed to, most of those present leaving as soon as it was put.

Mr. Jones murmured that after the explanation to freely given by the Chairman the meeting could only express their confidence in the directors. There might have been outbursts of feeling, but the general belief was that there might be brighter prospects in the future.

Mr. Gore-Booth, in a "mild" speech, endorsed the remarks; he was quite certain that Mr. Fraser-Smith and Mr. Legge had no intention of speaking with any malice, and possibly the Board had put an error of interpretation on what was said. He hoped the directors would reconsider their idea of resignation, for it was well-known how hard they had worked in the past (Hear, hear).

Mr. Wilcox questioned very much if the Board could resign in a body. But even if they could he thought the meeting would refuse to accept their resignation (Hear, hear).

The Chairman—You are aware that for my own part I am going away. I have stuck to my post at very considerable and very serious inconvenience. I have not received any remuneration for months past, in spite of the fact that they have made it. I need not say, I cannot but say, the same for the other directors—they have been most unkind to me.

Mr. Wilcox seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. S. A. Joseph proposed that the retiring directors, Messrs. W. Wotton and D. Gillies, be re-elected.

Mr. Judah seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Gillies—Gentlemen, we have met you here this afternoon to discuss the report of the Penjom Company. I have no doubt every one of us is very much interested in it, at all events, if not each holder of shares, everyone who held sufficient to have an interest in it and to wish for its prosperity. I think a good deal of adverse criticism has been passed on the directors for their management or rather their mismanagement of the Company, as it has been expressed by some shareholders present. I assure you that the directors have taken a very great interest in the Company and I do not know of a single Company in Hongkong where the directors have sat so often or so long as they have done in the interests of the Penjom Company.

Mr. Becher is not an expert miner, or mining expert, but I can assure you we have all tried to learn as much as we could in connection with mines in order that we might further your interests, and those interests, I assure you, have met with our most careful consideration. There is not a single Company in Hongkong where the Board have sat so often or so long as this one (Applause). We have never hesitated to come to the many meetings that have been called. We may have erred, and if we did err we had at least a proper object in view, and that was your interests. (Hear, hear).

We should be very glad indeed when shareholders come to a meeting and hear the report read if they not only could, but directed us as much as they could. We are always open to receive opinions, and I assure you if you can put us right in connection with the work of the Penjom Company, in order that we may arrive at success, we shall be only too glad to follow it. I do not despair of Penjom yet and I hope the time may come when it will be considered, as it has already been expressed, a good working and profitable mine. I need hardly say how very near we were to success a short time ago. If this property had been placed on the London market at an earlier date it would have floated successfully. The shares would have been taken up and we should have had our £100,000 in our pockets, and instead of despairing and crying out so much you would have said, "Well, Penjom was a very good thing after all." I do not think I need say much more, but I can assure you the Directors have hidden nothing from you. If a shareholder wishes to know anything the Secretary is always ready to show him correspondence and to place in any way the position that the directors desire to do everything we can for the Company, and we know that if our actions do not meet with your approval the only alternative is to resign, as has been already intimated by our Chairman. (Applause).

Mr. Jorey proposed that Messrs. F. Henderson and R. Lyall be elected auditors.

Mr. S. J. J. seconded.

The motion was carried, and the proceedings terminated.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by correspondents in this column.)

MR. BECHER AND THE PENJOM COMPANY.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph." Kindly insert the following letter, which I forwarded to Mr. Gourdin this morning—

Hongkong, 28th October, 1890.  
A. O'D. GOURDIN, Esq., Secretary.

The Penjom & Sungle Dui Samatung Co., Ltd. DEAR SIR—I have to point out for the information of the Board of Directors that the poll

counted at yesterday's meeting in reference to my amendment on the proposal for the adoption of the Directors' Report and statement of accounts after said amendment had, on a show of hands, been carried by an overwhelming majority, was illegal and not in conformity with the Company's Articles of Association, and is therefore null and void, leaving my amendment duly carried.

When the poll was demanded by Mr. Gore-Booth I asked the Chairman if it were not provided for by the Articles of Association, and Mr. Brodie, after consultation, replied that it was so provided, and that the poll was in order. I nevertheless had serious doubts on the matter and find that they were only too well founded.

I beg to call the attention of the Directors to sub-sections 14, 15 and 16 of section 13 of the Company's Articles (page 17) and especially to sub-section 15, which clearly lays it down that "a poll must be demanded immediately after the declaration of the result of a show of hands, in writing, by at least two shareholders present and entitled to vote at such meeting."

No such demand was made in writing—in fact an illegal proposition was made before any lawful declaration of the vote, that had just been taken, had been announced to the meeting—and as this is the essence of the rule the proceedings that took place on Mr. Gore-Booth's motion were illegal and cannot be upheld.

I further direct attention to sub-section 16 referring to proxies, which was not complied with in counting the poll. I claim therefore the amendment was carried and the report was adopted with the omission of the paragraph referring to Mr. Becher who, I contend, is no longer in the service of the company.

Please circulate this letter without delay amongst the directors and also kindly furnish me with a copy of the Share Register used at yesterday's meeting.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) R. FRASER-SMITH.

The following is the report—  
The Directors have now the pleasure to lay before you the accounts for the half year ending 31st March, 1890, from which it will be seen that expenditure on working account was \$25,815.70 at Penjom, and \$3,348.45 at Sungle Dui.

These figures represent the cost of exploratory and mining work done during that period, chiefly on the 80 square miles remaining to be worked at Penjom, a comprehensive review of which is given in our Manager's report handed to you herewith.

It will be understood that a double motive was in view in carrying out this most important work, inevitably involving considerable expense—firstly, to extend over the greater area of our Concessions the knowledge of their mineral resources, which had hitherto been almost entirely confined to the mines included in the 20-mile block lately disposed of—and secondly, to retain our claims over the entire area by placing ourselves in a proper position to demand from the Pahang Government the longest possible extension of the prospecting period of our lease, which was about to lapse, and on the premature expiry of which we should have had to relinquish all unselected ground.

In both directions the object has been successfully accomplished, and whilst we now have a good knowledge of various parts of both Concessions, which were lately blanks on our maps, the Directors have the great satisfaction of having obtained for you the assurance that your exclusive title thereto will remain undisturbed for another period of 5 years on the payment of a moderate yearly tax.

Although such prospecting work is naturally unremunerative in itself, reasonable expenditure in this direction must always be regarded as money well spent in the improvement of such property as these, and though we have so far been unfortunate in the intrinsic value of results obtained, there is reason to hope that we may strike richer ground any day on the many discoveries in course of further examination.

During the five years in view, it may reasonably be expected that Pahang will receive the further attention which the exploitation of its mineral wealth deserves, and, on the revival of the interest which has flagged during a period of general depression, should such be stimulated by the assurance of success at Penjom itself or in the neighbouring mines, it will be seen that these great fields for mining enterprise possess an intrinsic value which may not at present be recognized.

It is proposed by your Directors not to initiate any fresh mining operations of an extensive scale but to continue the work of prospecting in the strict sense of this term, as suggested by Mr. Becher in his report. With this view our staff at the mines has been reduced to a minimum, some having transferred their services to the Penjom Pahang Gold Company, and from estimates which have been prepared we can see our way to carry out the proposed programme at an expenditure of about \$5,000 per month, which we shall be able to meet for nine months without default of repayment of disbursements by the new Company.

In the statement of accounts the expenses of our own operations and of the establishment at Penjom (Jala) Mines have been so divided as to show an outlay for account of the latter of \$17,301.27. To this has to be added, though not yet entered in accounts, a sum of about \$18,000—the value of machinery and plant taken over, and in reimbursement of these amounts it was agreed to receive £6,000. We regret to say that this claim has not yet been paid by reason of financial depression in the Pahang market, on which our outflow is dependent for resources in London, but we are promised an early settlement and your Directors will continue to use every effort to obtain it.

The preponderating interests of this Company will shortly be represented on the Board in London by the arrival there in December of Mr. W. G. Brodie, (Chairman) to assist Mr. Ewart, their other representative, and the simultaneous return to England of Mr. J. Ashton Bell, a most able Director, who has been spending some months in Pahang.

Meanwhile it is satisfactory to know that funds have been sent to the mines for current requirements on the Jala Block, where the work is now being carried on at the expense of the new Company, and there is every reason to hope that such will now be continued with renewed energy. Necessary additions to the pumps, to deal with the recent increase of water, have been ordered by Mr. Becher, and before long the lower levels will be again accessible from which it is expected that the richer veins of ore lately discovered will soon produce material for some returns of gold.

Our operations at Sungle Dui beyond those of exploration not having shown profitable results in the shape of out-put of tin-ore from the deposits so far opened up, the current outlay has been reduced in that direction, and it is proposed for the future to confine the work here, as at Penjom, to prospecting only, at the estimated cost of not more than \$5,000 per month.

Mr. H. M. Becher returned from London to Singapore in the middle of July, and has since been to the mine of which he has made a full inspection. He remained several weeks at Penjom, making the necessary arrangements in alteration of the staff and programme of operations contingent on the transfer of the Jala

Block, after which he visited Sungle Dui and inspected all the workings at that Concession. He has now come to Hongkong and presented his report, a copy of which you receive. Mr. Becher is now managing the "Penjom Pahang" and this Company's properties jointly—an arrangement by which they will have the continued benefit of his services with an advantageous division of his remuneration.

Mr. W. G. Brodie having resigned his seat at the Board in consequence of his departure from the colony, it becomes necessary to elect some one in his stead.

Under Articles 15 of the Articles of Association, Mr. Wm. Wotton and Mr. David Gillies retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and R. Lyall, who are eligible for re-election.

WM. G. BRODIE,  
Chairman.  
Hongkong, 21st October, 1890.

1ST OCTOBER, 1889, TO 31ST MARCH, 1890.  
Assets.

To Cost of Estate	\$150,000.00
Machinery and Plant, Construction, Buildings at Penjom and Samantan	54,968.59
Steam-launch <i>Manda</i>	1,000.00
Flour	2,500.00
Sin Yum	9,690.00
Lighters	1,793.07
Saw Mill Plant	174.70
Water Wheel	2,195.93
Instruments and Tools at Penjom and Samantan	2,681.97
Stores Cash	8,556.93
Furniture at Office	580.88
at Mines & Sungle Dui	2,049.60
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Fixed Deposit	90,000.00
Cash at Penjom Agency	1,186.00
Malay Pahang Concession Company	110.00
Sundry Debtors	3,544.34
Suspense	2,169.10
Petty Cash	2,969.27
Gold on hand produced by	346.50
Tribute Mines	1,143.86
Cash at Mines	106.77
Petty Cash	400.04
James Morrison & Co., London	600.50
Opium at Mines	260.17
Plank cutting	17,801.27
Penjom Pahang Gold Company, (Limited)	21.88
Bullion Stock Account	16.95
Live Stock	267,241.61
Balance	\$627,734.60

Liabilities.

By Capital	\$599,730.00
Syme & Co.	1,752.39
Malay Peninsula Prospecting Co.	353.40
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Account No. 2	25,748.81
Accounts Payable	150.00
Balance	\$627,734.60

WORKING ACCOUNT.

To Balance from last Account	\$228,783.65
Mining Exploration	\$8,055.57
Prospecting	5,200.59
Salaries and Wages, Europeans and Native Overseers	6,918.04
Roads and Bridges	729.37
Assaying Expenses	471.95
Stamp Mill Working	216.87
Dam and Water Supply	173.21
Transport, Machinery & Stores	63.35
Saw Mill Working	179.16
Penjom Office Expenses	1,495.52
Police	381.40
Hotel and Hospital Expenses	226.07
Allowances	297.46
General Expenses	1,772.92
Advances Written off	245.03
Postal Service	37.50
Pyrites Shipment	10.00
Depreciation on Old Stores written off	932.04
Auditors' Fees	150.00
Disbursements at Sungle Dui	8,348.45
Balance Expenses over receipts Steam-launch <i>Sin Yum</i>	2,006.85
Expenses launch <i>Manda</i>	102.32
Surveying Expenses	2,274.39
Selling Expenses	1,594.00
Head Office Rent and Expenses	112.03
Stationary	200.89
Legal Expenses	1,001.00
Commission	804.52
Exchange	797.00
Insurance	60.30
Balance	\$274,051.20

By Profit on Stores Sold 729.70 || Profit on Opium Sold | 2,164.70 |
Proceeds Sale Tin	980.70
Gold Licence	92.00
Interest	2,512.49
Transfer Fees	67.00
Godown Rent	270.00
Balance	267,241.61
Balance	\$274,051.20

E. S. O. E.  
Hongkong, 21st October, 1890.

A. O'D. GOURDIN,  
Secretary.

We have compared the above Statement with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities of the Company, and certify the same to be correct.

F. HENDERSON, } Auditors.  
R. LYALL, }

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Football Club was held on the 24th instant, in the Gymnasium of the Victoria Recreation Club, at 8 o'clock.

Present: Messrs. A. Ough, F. M. Blair, E. M. Blair, A. Grant, F. C. Dundas, E. A. Ram, F. L. Jackson, S. S. Clarke, G. G. Boyle, S. Boyle, and Capt. Macdonough, R.E. (Hon. Secretary).

The chair was taken by Dr. Atkinson, in the absence of the president the Hon. A. P. McEwen, who has left the colony.

The Chairman stated that owing to unavoidable circumstances, which would be understood by the meeting, it had been found impossible to issue the annual statement of Accounts.

The meeting then proceeded to elect a new president and committee. On the motion of Mr. Blair, seconded by Mr. Ram, Major Barker, R.E., was unanimously elected President. It was proposed by Mr. F. Maitland, seconded by Mr. Clarke that Mr. Skitt be elected Treasurer, which was carried.

The Secretary having tendered his resignation, as he was uncertain if he would remain in the colony during the whole of the

coming season, Mr. Wallace was elected Secretary on the motion of Mr. Ram seconded by Mr. Blair. Capt. Macdonough, R.E., consented to act as Secretary during the temporary absence of Mr. Wallace from the colony. Capt. Macdonough and Lieut. Grant were elected members of the Committee in place of Mr. Wallace and Mr. Hayler, the latter having left the colony. Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Ram and Mr. Blair were re-elected to serve on the Committee.

The Chairman made a few remarks on the results of the last season, and requested members to be a little more punctual in coming down to play, great inconvenience having resulted last season from want of punctuality by members of the teams.

It was decided that the opening match, 1st Eleven of the Club v. All Comers, should be played on Monday, the 3rd November.

The Chairman stated that the Key Club had kindly placed the members of the Club to the Grand Stand for dressing in.

On the motion of Dr. Atkinson a cordial vote of thanks was given to the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

Several new members having been elected, the meeting adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.  
IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.  
(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)  
October 27th.

The October Sessions, formally opened on the 18th instant, were resumed to-day. Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Attorney General, prosecuted.

ANOTHER FAULTY ORDINANCE.  
Wong Atak, found guilty by the jury last Monday of entering a house in Gilman's Bazaar with intent to commit a felony, was brought before the Court for sentence.

His lordship, in delivering judgment, said that it had transpired in evidence that the prisoner had stolen nothing; the house in question was abandoned and almost empty, the tenants having left owing to a fire having broken out next door. The case, taking it all into its bearings, seemed peculiar. It was strange that a police officer should, as alleged, conceal himself in the cock-loft of an abandoned house and there wait until a thief came. Under the Ordinance the prisoner could not be considered to have stolen in the sense of the word "stealing" was used in the Ordinance, and it consequently did not meet this case, which was an extraordinary one. The man had been already six weeks in gaol, and that would certainly be sufficient punishment, in itself, to meet the case. He would therefore discharge him.

The prisoner, who promptly opened fire, with choice epithets, on the police, the Bench, the Press, and every one within ear-shot, was then allowed to go home.

CRICKET.  
THE GARRISON V. HONGKONG C. C.

This interesting match, commenced on Friday last, terminated on Saturday in the usual unsatisfactory draw. We append the scores—

THE GARRISON.

First Innings.	Second Innings.
1. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	1. C. Coxon, 70
2. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	2. E. W. Maitland, 17
3. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	3. E. W. Maitland, 17
4. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	4. E. W. Maitland, 17
5. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	5. E. W. Maitland, 17
6. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	6. E. W. Maitland, 17
7. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	7. E. W. Maitland, 17
8. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	8. E. W. Maitland, 17
9. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	9. E. W. Maitland, 17
10. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	10. E. W. Maitland, 17
11. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	11. E. W. Maitland, 17
12. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	12. E. W. Maitland, 17
13. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	13. E. W. Maitland, 17
14. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	14. E. W. Maitland, 17
15. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	15. E. W. Maitland, 17
16. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	16. E. W. Maitland, 17
17. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	17. E. W. Maitland, 17
18. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	18. E. W. Maitland, 17
19. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	19. E. W. Maitland, 17
20. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	20. E. W. Maitland, 17
21. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	21. E. W. Maitland, 17
22. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	22. E. W. Maitland, 17
23. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	23. E. W. Maitland, 17
24. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	24. E. W. Maitland, 17
25. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	25. E. W. Maitland, 17
26. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	26. E. W. Maitland, 17
27. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	27. E. W. Maitland, 17
28. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	28. E. W. Maitland, 17
29. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	29. E. W. Maitland, 17
30. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	30. E. W. Maitland, 17
31. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	31. E. W. Maitland, 17
32. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	32. E. W. Maitland, 17
33. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	33. E. W. Maitland, 17
34. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	34. E. W. Maitland, 17
35. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	35. E. W. Maitland, 17
36. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	36. E. W. Maitland, 17
37. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	37. E. W. Maitland, 17
38. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	38. E. W. Maitland, 17
39. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	39. E. W. Maitland, 17
40. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	40. E. W. Maitland, 17
41. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	41. E. W. Maitland, 17
42. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	42. E. W. Maitland, 17
43. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	43. E. W. Maitland, 17
44. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	44. E. W. Maitland, 17
45. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	45. E. W. Maitland, 17
46. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	46. E. W. Maitland, 17
47. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	47. E. W. Maitland, 17
48. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	48. E. W. Maitland, 17
49. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	49. E. W. Maitland, 17
50. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	50. E. W. Maitland, 17
51. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	51. E. W. Maitland, 17
52. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	52. E. W. Maitland, 17
53. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	53. E. W. Maitland, 17
54. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	54. E. W. Maitland, 17
55. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	55. E. W. Maitland, 17
56. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	56. E. W. Maitland, 17
57. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	57. E. W. Maitland, 17
58. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	58. E. W. Maitland, 17
59. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	59. E. W. Maitland, 17
60. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	60. E. W. Maitland, 17
61. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	61. E. W. Maitland, 17
62. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	62. E. W. Maitland, 17
63. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	63. E. W. Maitland, 17
64. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	64. E. W. Maitland, 17
65. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	65. E. W. Maitland, 17
66. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	66. E. W. Maitland, 17
67. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	67. E. W. Maitland, 17
68. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	68. E. W. Maitland, 17
69. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	69. E. W. Maitland, 17
70. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	70. E. W. Maitland, 17
71. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	71. E. W. Maitland, 17
72. E. M. Blair, R.E. 25	72. E. W. Maitland, 17
73	